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Opinions split in Yap over massive ETG tourism project

*By Bill Jaynes and Bernadette Grong
 The Kaselehlie Press*

August 30, 2012

Colonia, Yap—The controversy over

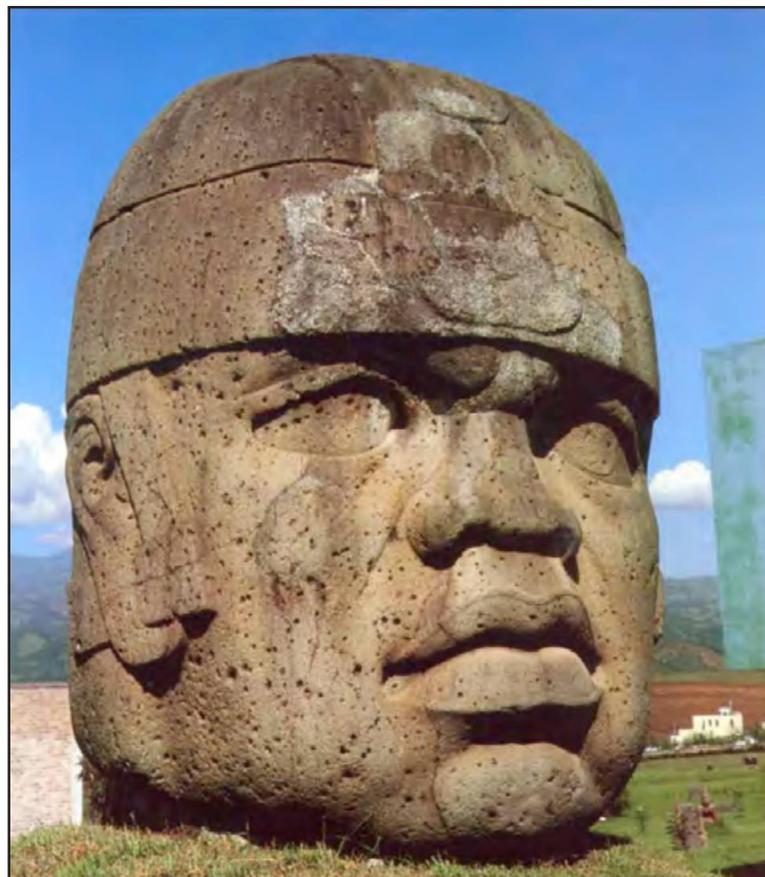
the agreement between Yap State leaders and Chinese developers who want to develop a massive tourism industry in Yap is not likely to go away any time soon.

ETG wants to build hotels, casinos, marinas, and golf courses. ETG has also promised to significantly beef up Yap's infrastructure such as roads, schools, a hospital, water supply and others. However, many Yapese believe that the development will cost Yap its identity and that it also has a potential to destroy its environment.

It is difficult to determine whether the Yapese residents who are upset about the proposed project are more upset about the potential environmental and social impact of

See "ETG" on page 5

Pohnpei "Stone Head" could be an anthropological game changer



*By Bill Jaynes
 The Kaselehlie Press*

August 30, 2012

Pohnpei, FSM — Archaeologists and historians are asking for any information about a large stone carving of a man's head that may have been removed from Pohnpei some time in the 1960's. According to

reports, the unusual stone carving was taller than a man and must have been enormously heavy. According to at least one report, it may have been removed from the area near the German Church in Kolonia Town.

See "Stone Head" on page 7

IN THIS ISSUE

**FSM Payroll-
 "waste, abuse,
 and potential
 fraud"**

See Story on Page 2

**Road to FSM Capital
 Awaits Repairs**

See Story on page 4

**Pohnpei Public
 Library-
 Continuing to grow**

See Story on page 6

FSS Unity officially joins FSM Maritime Surveillance fleet



FSM Information Services

August 22, 2012

Palikir, Pohnpei – At Dehketik, Pohnpei, a handover ceremony for the FSS Unity was held earlier today at the wharf site of the FSM Maritime Wing, FSM National Police, marking the transfer of the assistance of a sixteen-meter long patrol craft from the Nippon Foundation, through the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan.

According to earlier information from the FSM National Police, the FSS Unity is an assistance under the Nippon Foundation's Project for Improvement of the Coast Guard Capability in Micronesian Region, funded by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation to strengthen maritime surveillance against illegal fishing, search and rescue operations and disaster prevention capabilities.

On the handover occasion, Acting

Secretary of the Department of Justice, Mr. Johnson Asher, reiterated the FSM's gratitude to its development partners who have contributed to the strengthening and capacity building of the maritime surveillance services, such as the United States, the Government of Australia and most notably today, the Government of Japan.

"I can assure you that the FSS Unity and the communication facility will be utilized in a manner that maximizes the maritime wing's capacity to effectively carryout coastal law enforcement services, search and rescue operations as well as emergency responses", said Mr. Asher.

Mr. Takeju Ogata, President of the Nippon Foundation, said that the foundation has joined forces with the Micronesian

See "FSS Unity" on page 4

ONPA uncovers payroll "waste, abuse, and potential fraud"

By **Bill Jaynes**
The Kaselehlie Press

August 23, 2012

Palikir, Pohnpei—Internal auditors say that FSM's payroll is the largest cost center of the National government. They said that the weaknesses in the system that handles those expenditures have caused wasteful spending, abuse, and potentially fraudulent payroll transactions.

The FSM's Office of the National Public Auditor (ONPA) reported that during the 2010 and 2011 fiscal years the FSM's Department of Finance and Administration (DF&A) issued 50,863 payroll checks for a total of \$30,234,355. The audit additionally covered Fiscal Year 2012 through the month of May, just four months short of the end of this fiscal year, but it didn't include the numbers for the eight months of FY 2012.

"Ultimately, the significance of the findings and the nature of the findings should be adequately alarming to motivate the implementation of strong controls. The gravity of the findings if not corrected, will eventually erode the integrity of the payroll system, if such has not already occurred," the audit said.

ONPA referred some of its findings to its Compliance Investigation Division (CID) for further review. Depending on the outcome of their investigation, CID could forward their results to the FSM Department of Justice for possible prosecution of any potential payroll lawbreakers.

In its first listed finding, auditors said that significant overpayments to active employees were made automatically without detection or correction. During the sample pay period which was determined before the audit was announced and before any auditing was conducted, auditors found that 15 employees were overpaid by a total of 459.25 hours resulting in overpayments of \$2,352.35.

During the sample pay period, paychecks

for two employees, each for 80 hours, were issued despite the fact that zero hours were submitted to payroll and no paychecks were requested or expected for either of those two employees.

Two employees were overpaid 17 hours of overtime hours for time which was not requested and not authorized.

The payroll process is computerized and auditors found that the Payroll Module of the "Fundware" financial management software package was set up to automatically pay all "active employees" 80 hours unless manual intervention occurs. The default pay setting in the software led to problems of overpayment.

The audit said that attendance records in the operating departments, agencies and offices were minimal and many times were non-existent even though FSM law requires attendance records even for "exempt employees".

According to the FSM Personnel office, exempt employees are salaried employees but since their leave is accrued according to the number of hours they work they must submit time cards just as hourly employees are supposed to be required to do.

"The result of paying employees for more hours than they actually worked, or employees who minimally attended work are waste, abuse, and potential fraud," the audit said.

Auditors pointed out that the issue of unequally applied requirements for recording of work hours is also an employee morale issue for employees who report their exact working hours either because of their own personal integrity or because they are required to do so by their supervisors. Those employees have to dig in to their annual leave or sick time for work hours if they miss work hours during a pay period for any reason.

Employees who are not required or who don't have the personal integrity to report

their actual work hours and who miss work during a pay period often have full leave and sick days at the end of a year regardless of how many hours they actually worked during the rest of the year.

It's a disincentive for honest reporting of actual hours worked.

During the two and a half year audit period, at least one dead person received payroll checks for five months. The allottee (a department, agency, or division head; eg. "the boss") approved hours for the employee.

ONPA reckons that "\$1,920.33 (of \$2,730.24 paid out) likely is not recoverable due to direct deposit for personal use." The money was paid out into a personal bank account and to one or more vendors for the personal debts of the deceased employee.

Another national government employee was paid for four months after their termination date. ONPA figured that a third of the money that employee collected is also unrecoverable.

Again, the employee's former boss signed off on the payroll documents authorizing payment.

"The Office of Personnel has a list of 'active' employees but it is not maintained," the audit said.

Some paychecks were issued to employees who had not yet started work.

Because of the "Fundware" default Payroll module settings, as soon as the Office of Personnel entered a newly hired employee into the system, the system was set to automatically pay the employee for 80 hours of work even if the new employee had not yet started work.

Several erroneously issued checks had to be voided and returned to DF&A because of this problem.

Not only were payroll check stocks

unnumbered and unsecured, but three DF&A employees had full administrator privileges to the Fundware software that administers payroll processes. Further, there is an administrator account bearing no name that is still active on the system that has top level privileges. In 2011 that user account made 21 edits to employee master files.

A high level user of the Fundware software could make any number of changes throughout the system after which the user could wipe out any traces of those changes until they hit FSM bank accounts.

During fiscal year 2011 the Payroll manager performed over 400 edits to employee master files. A significant number of those edits were for payroll increases. The edits were made without authorization of any kind.

"Lack of monitoring of changes to employee payroll master records may have resulted in illegitimate pay increases and premiums," the audit found. Personnel Action Forms could not be found to justify many changes in employee master files. There is no documentary proof for those transactions that authorizations for changes were ever in place.

As its final finding, ONPA said that there is no plan in place in the event of a catastrophic shut down of the DF&A financial system.

Rose Akinaga, Acting Director of FSM DF&A wrote in her response that by design all of the FSM States chose a uniform system so that it would be "easier if and when there is a technical issue or in case of emergencies that the states can utilize the closest State's financial system to ensure that operations are not halted or affected." She said that various discussions had taken place between Information Technology staff and State Finance Directors for "such set up."

She promised that DF&A would work on documenting in writing, the recovery program that is in place.

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Speaker Figir proposes amendments to the FSM Constitution

FSM Congress News

PALIKIR, POHNPEI. August 24, 2012 – Speaker Isaac V. Figir of the Seventeenth Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia has authored three legislative measures to explore alternatives for the future of the nation.

The first measure is a revision of a bill introduced during the 16th Congress to create four additional seats for women in the FSM Congress. Congressional Bill 17-147, proposes to amend the Constitution to guarantee the representation of women in Congress by creating four additional at-large seats for eligible women candidates. Speaker Figir has revised the bill to install a temporary special measure provision to guarantee seats for women candidates for a period of 20 years. As a proposed amendment to the Constitution, upon becoming a law, the measure will be placed on a referendum for the people to decide.

In anticipation of the termination of the financial provisions of the Amended Compact of Free Association between the FSM and the United States of America, Congressional Bill 17-148, calls for the establishment of a Joint Committee on the Future of the Nation and its Secretariat to explore alternatives for the nation's future.

The composition of the proposed body will mirror that of the former Joint Committee on Compact Economic Negotiation (JCN) with nine members: one representative from each state, four representatives from Congress – one from each delegation and the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs as a member ex officio.

And finally, Congressional Bill 17-150, proposes an amendment to the Constitution to allow that “in the event of a financial crisis that a state is unable to control,” such state may temporarily delegate any powers assigned to it under the Constitution to the national government. Upon becoming law, the measure like the previous amendment to the Constitution, it too will be placed on a referendum for the people to decide.

Speaker Figir's bills are ready for introduction in the next session of Congress.

The Fifth Regular Session Congress as scheduled will convene on September 12, 2012. In accordance with the Rules of Procedures, the session will be for 20 days unless extended or shortened by resolution.

Congress sessions as usual are open to the interested public.

IOM signs Cooperation Agreement with the RMI

The International Organization for Migration

On 22 August the Government of the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI) signed a bilateral Cooperation Agreement with IOM in Majuro, the capital of the archipelago. It grants IOM International Inter-Governmental Organization status in the RMI with the associated privileges consistent with international conventions and the law of the host country.

While IOM has been operating in the islands for over three years, this agreement is symbolic of the strengthened cooperation between the Government of the RMI and IOM, in favour of the people of the Marshall Islands.

The Cooperation Agreement was signed by the Acting President, Hon. David Kabua, and IOM Chief of Mission, Mr Ashley Carl, alongside Chief Secretary, Casten Nemra, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Kino Kabua, Assistant Secretary, Doreen DeBrum, IOM Program Manager Philippe Brewster, other Government officials and IOM staff.

In his statement, Mr Carl remarked that this was an important highlight in the relationship between IOM and the RMI and signified the strengthening of the bond between the Marshall Islands and the Organization. Moreover, the agreement would afford IOM



the appropriate framework to explore broader types of assistance.

The agreement acknowledges IOM assistance already provided to the Marshall Islands, particularly in the areas of disaster preparedness, climate adaptation and assisted voluntary return. It also defines the nature of the relationship between IOM and the RMI and provides a framework for IOM to expand its range of assistance to include countering-trafficking, immigration and border management.

Furthermore, it will facilitate the implementation of the Climate Adaptation, Disaster Risk Reduction and Education (CADRE) Programme, which IOM is managing on behalf of the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID). IOM's work in support of US Agency for International Development (USAID) in the areas of disaster mitigation, relief and reconstruction will also be buttressed by the signing of the agreement.

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Founder Frank Lyon mapping Trust Territories in 1975...



...for 51 years

...FSS Unity

Continued from front page

countries, the governments of Japan, the United States and Australia, as well as other international organizations to enhance surveillance of maritime zones in the region and prevent unwanted situations, citing increases in illegal fishing operations, overfishing, maritime pollution as well as "accidental distress and crime at sea".

Mr. Ogata, through an interpreter, spoke of the difficult nature of maritime

surveillance issues and challenges saying, "no country individually, unilaterally and bilaterally can effectively deal with these transnational issues" in the vast maritime areas which, he said, "must be addressed to keep the peace and prosperity of the Micronesian countries and livelihood of the people".

At the end of his remarks, Mr. Ogata stated his wish that FSM, located as a "center" for the three Micronesian Nations, continues to help consolidate the unity amongst Japan, the United States and Australia.

"I thank the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia for providing me this opportunity of great cooperation", was Mr. Ogata's concluding statement.

Speaking at a dinner reception on the same day as part of the handover celebrations, Secretary Francis Itimai, FSM Department of Transportation, Communication and Infrastructure, official focal point for this project as designated by President Mori, recalled that the assistance plan was approved in March, 2010 at a meeting in Japan involving the three Micronesian countries, the United States, Australia and Japan along with the Nippon Foundation and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation.

Part of the assistance plan, according to Secretary



Dignitaries "break the cask" to dedicate the FSS Unity

Pahnasang road under safety hazard: President Mori issued a bidding waiver

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, FSM — On August 9, President Manny Mori issued a waiver of the National Government's bidding process requirement for construction projects costing over \$20,000.

The waiver was rendered in consideration of the badly damaged section of the Pahnasang Road in Sokehs that leads to the College of Micronesia-FSM campus and beyond, which is deemed a high hazard, requiring immediate corrective response to protect the population and visitors who pass through the affected area. Delaying necessary repair will not only incur further costs but also increase probability of potentially fatal accidents.

The waiver names the Pohnpei Transportation Authority (PTA), "who has the necessary construction equipments and the technical expertise" as the contractor to undertake the repair project.

The project cost estimate provided by PTA is around \$48,000.

According to Mr. Churchill Edward, Chief

of Staff for the FSM President, a Memorandum of Understanding between the FSM National Government, Pohnpei State Government and the Pohnpei Transportation Authority regarding the funding, management, construction and other aspects of the particular road project has been circulated among the parties for finalization.

Mr. Francis Itimai, Secretary of Transportation, Communication and Infrastructure (TC&I) said that the MOU is still being reviewed by the attorney generals at both Pohnpei State and the National Government.

Meanwhile, PTA is waiting for TC&I to issue the notice to commence the project, which notice will be issued pending the execution of the MOU according to Secretary Itimai.

The FSM National Government is footing the needed amount from funding allocation earmarked for bridge and Capital Road repairs in the FY12 budget, Mr. Edward affirmed.

As of print time, start time for the repair project could not be ascertained.

For further inquiry, contact the FSM Information Office at 320-2548 or email fsmpio@mail.fm

Itimai, are to build a training and coordination center for the Micronesian Region, upgrade surveillance communication capability, and conduct a feasibility study for construction of a fuel depot in Kapinga Atoll, among others.

Secretary Itimai also underscored that most components of the plan have been accomplished as approved by the three Micronesian Presidents at their 8th Summit, except for the establishment of the Micronesian Training and Coordination Center that is to be built in the FSM.

Both the ceremony and the reception were attended by the Lieutenant Governor of Pohnpei State, Mr. Mercello Petersen; Senator Edwin, Pohnpei State Legislature; the Ambassadors from Japan, United States, Peoples Republic of China and Australia; high level members of the United States and Japan Coast Guards; as well as some Cabinet Members from the FSM National Government and a number of National and State Officials.

Also present were other members of the Nippon Foundation and representatives of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, the Japan Association of Marine Safety, FSM National Police Maritime Wing and the Pohnpei State Port Authority.

For more information, 320- 2548 or email fsmpio@mail.fm.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



PETROLEUM PRODUCT SUPPLY (2013 – 2018)

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...ETG

Continued from front page

the project or because their government did not provide much information to them before the Governor signed the agreement.

Freelance reporter Bernadette Grong tried to schedule an appointment to interview Governor Sebastian Anefal and was told that she should instead talk to ETG representatives. Indeed the task of public information on the project has been left primarily to ETG and its representatives. Grong wrote that ETG has met with several members of the Yapese Women's Association, the Yap Visitor's Bureau, OurYAP, and the Yapese Youth Congress to brief the members of those groups about the project.

Grong said that ETG representatives have started to actively distribute information packets to the public. During an interview one ETG representative told her that the investment group feels that the lack of information coming from the Yap Government will not help the public to understand what ETG is in Yap to do or how they will go about it.

Though Yap State has posted the entire Cooperative Investment agreement signed by the State of Yap and ETG (Chengdu Century City New International Convention and Exhibition Center Company Ltd.) on its website (www.yapstategov.org) it was a foregone signed deal by the time it did.

But while many Yapese residents still feel that their government has sold them down the river, the agreement doesn't seem to show any evidence of that. Government does agree to change some laws. Essentially the agreement boils down to the fact that control over the entire project is in the hands of the land owners. Landowners can choose to lease their land for use by ETG for the project and it will proceed or they can choose not to lease their land and it will never start.

The fate of the project rests entirely in the hands of Yap's property owners. "If Yapese people do not lease their land to E.T.G., then E.T.G. will leave. No land means no investment. Simple as that," said Yang Gang, an ETG representative.

Grong wrote that tensions are high in Yap and there has already been at least one case of assault against a representative of ETG. "One of the ETG reps was assaulted while in his vehicle, in front of the Blue Lagoon Store in Colonia on Wednesday, August 22, 2012," Grong wrote. "The culprit was a local male, who was arrested and jailed. He was later released and he signed a formal written apology for the ETG rep involved. His reason for attacking the ETG rep was simply because he worked for ETG. Since then, no other violent scenes have occurred in Colonia regarding ETG."

Yap residents are divided about the project. Grong asked local residents if they think

that ETG will help the economy of the State. "Yes, they have offered to help improve our tourism and don't forget the job opportunities they will provide," said Paul Tapang. Another Yap resident wholeheartedly disagreed, "They just want to come in and take over. They don't care about our culture or our way of life."

Grong says that there is division even amongst the leaders of the local government. One official told her, "I don't want the Chinese to come here and take the land that belonged to my ancestors." But another government official was positive about ETG. "If this will bring in revenue for our island, then it will be good. Especially since budget cuts are in the near future."

Some of the government leaders in Guam have expressed their opinions on the ETG proposal.

Shortly after Yap's Council of Pilung signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ETG in January of this year, Guam's Pacific News Center ran an interview with Senator Judi Guthertz of the 31st Guam Legislature. During the interview, Guthertz reacted strongly to word of the potential development in its neighboring State.

"Should we be concerned about this? I think we should be very interested in this because this is not the only area within the Western Pacific that China's established a strong presence economically and socially," she told PNC. "We should be concerned about the potential strength that China is trying to establish in our region, and I'm sure that the United States government through its intelligence forces, etcetera, are aware of this."

She told PNC that the move by China highlights the U.S. military's need for Guam "so that Guam will be a strong location for the defense of the United States and our allies."

At about the same time, Congresswoman Madeline Z. Bordallo released a statement in connection with the signing of the MOU. "The recent addition of direct flights to Yap from China highlights the importance and urgency of including Chinese visitors under the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program. I continue to work with Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense, as well as our island leaders, to push for the inclusion of Chinese visitors. The Chinese market would be an important growth market for our tourism industry in the future," her statement said.

A group of concerned Yap citizens met with some members of the 8th Yap State Legislature on Thursday, May 23 2012 regarding the ETG project. People from all parts of the island, of different ages, and different backgrounds attended to voice their questions and concerns. Grong said that a broadcast of the meeting was supposed to have been aired over the weekend, but the radio station did not play it.

"What do you think the Governor has failed to do concerning this investment, and what do you think he should do?" Grong asked Vice Speaker Ted Rutun.

"I don't think that the Governor has failed in his duties. I think the lack of communication is making him into a bad guy. If negotiations were public, there would be no misunderstanding."

She asked Speaker Henry Falan, "What actions can the civil society take to ensure that this investment will not flop?"

"The public must demand transparency and responsibilities of the government officials working for them," he responded.

Grong told the Speaker and Vice Speaker about threats posted on the Micronesia Forum and on several Facebook forums. She asked the two men what advice they have for the people of Yap during what she called "this time of turmoil."

"I think people should wait and give a chance to the government process. Peaceful actions are the appropriate way of doing things. Violence won't solve any problems," the Speaker said.

"If this investment agreement goes thru, we shouldn't resort to violence," the Vice Speaker said. "We must conduct ourselves civilly. Hopefully, we can still negotiate with ETG to benefit our people and our island. Dignity and integrity is important. Our culture is unique to us and to the rest of the world. Let's not forget that."

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Kosrae State to host 2012 legislative conference

FSM Congress

PALIKIR, POHNPEI.
August 29, 2012 – The Kosrae State Legislature will be hosting this year's Micronesian Legislative Conference (MLC) from September 4–6 in Tofol. The Conference will review the state legislatures progress on the 'Call For Action' that was issued during last year's MLC in Palikir.

During the 2011 MLC in November, the nation's five law making bodies gathered in Palikir under the working theme "A Call For Action" and agreed through resolutions to take action on three issues highlighted at the conference that needed the 'collective action' of legislative bodies and those issues were:

1. Human Trafficking;
2. Tax Reform; and
3. Compact-Impact.

On the issue of Human Trafficking, the MLC had adopted a resolution for the signatory legislatures to accept obligations "to properly address the issue of human trafficking and consider adopting a legal regime appropriate to their respective jurisdictions."

The FSM Congress, during its Third Special Session earlier this year in March, passed Congressional Act 17-37 to define crimes relating to trafficking in persons and related offenses and prescribe appropriate penalties for their violation and other purposes, the Act became Public Law 17-38.

For the Tax Reform issue, the MLC had adopted a resolution calling on the signatory legislatures to "commit themselves to acting on the FSM tax reform plan, either positively or negatively and prior to April of 2012, to bring the years long tax reform initiative to a final conclusion."

As with the Human Trafficking Act, the Congress passed in the same March Session Congressional Act 17-49 to create the FSM Revenue Administrative Act. The legislative measure categorized the administrative

rules that will guide the Unified Revenue Authority (URA) in collecting tax by providing guidelines for taxpayers as well as procedures and deadlines for filing tax returns, appeal procedures and record keeping requirements, the Act became Public Law 17-50.

With the Compact-Impact issue, the 2011 MLC resolution noted the law making bodies' agreement to "support and encourage the President's Task Force on Compact-Impact initiatives to conduct a survey of as many citizens of the [FSM] living in the United States as reasonably possibly, to determine the actual impact by those citizens on their host jurisdictions, and should support and encourage enhanced education activities to assist [FSM] citizens living abroad."

During its regular session in May, Congress passed Congressional Act 17-52 for a supplemental to the 2012 National Budget for various outstanding national needs among which included a funding of 200,000 to conduct a "Survey of FSM citizens in the US," the Act became Public Law 17-52.

While the conference in the State of Kosrae will have other agenda items and issues of discussion, the main focus will be to follow up and review the progress of the state legislatures on issued that were called for action during the 2011 Micronesian Legislative Conference.

The MLC was established to strengthen the rapport between the legislative branches of the five governments and at the same time provide a platform for the legislative bodies to discuss and define solutions for issues of mutual concern.

Pohnpei Public Library grateful for community assistance

Corinne Jahnsen

Many improvements have been made to the Pohnpei Public Library in the last year. Construction Civic Action Detail, CCAD, helped to renovate the library including building a new roof. The fresh start inspired others to make improvements including creating a blog, facebook page, and sponsor a magazine drive to create a periodical section for the patrons to enjoy and use for research. The community of Pohnpei also supported the Summer Library Program buying books from the library's wish list.

Inside, the library was essentially made over, but the outside, the playground area continued to remain run down. The library has been working to fix it up adding gravel to help combat the mud, and allowing Girl Scouts Pohnpei to plant a friendship garden. The playground remained untouched and badly in need of some maintenance.

The answer to the playground quandary came from the hotdogs that spectators ate at the Pohnpei Fishing

Club tournaments. Starting in May the proceeds from the hotdogs and bratwursts, as well as a few raffles were collected to go towards purchasing new swings for the playground. After two tournaments the swings were paid for and ordered. During July Library staff replaced the swings and for the rest of the summer, rain or shine, children were either using the swings, or waiting their turn to use the swings.

The success of the first two fundraisers encouraged the Fishing Club to continue to raise funds for the library. Another need that was identified was the lack of youth fiction books. Many

donations are made to library, but these mostly consist of children's picture books and adult fiction. Students enjoy reading the Goosebumps series by R.L. Stine. The library unfortunately had no Goosebumps books to check out. The fishing club raised enough funds at their July tournament to pay for the entire Goosebumps series, 60 books, and for the cost of shipping. On August 18, the Pohnpei Fishing Club held another tournament, and more funds were made to purchase more books for the youth fiction section of the library.

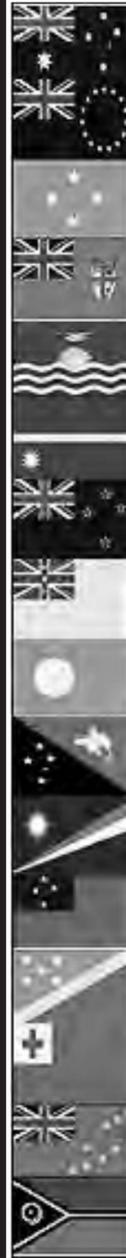
The Pohnpei Public Library is very grateful for the support it receives from the community. On August 16, the library presented the fishing club with a certificate of appreciation for their contributions to the library.



Children hold up the newly donated Goosebumps books under the recently renovated swing set at the Pohnpei Public Library



Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
Excelling Together for the People of the Pacific



The Secretariat seeks a suitably qualified and experienced person to fill the position of **Trade Policy Adviser**. The Trade Policy Adviser will be accountable to the Director of the Economic Governance Programme for:

- Managing a team of trade policy staff and consultants to deliver timely and high-quality technical advice and assistance to Forum Member Countries on trade policy issues;
- Managing a team of trade policy staff and consultants to provide timely and high-quality briefings, correspondence, reports and analysis for Executive and other stakeholders;
- Managing a team to organise Officials', Ministers' and Leaders' meetings; and
- Building strong relationships through Officials'-level liaison with Forum Member Countries and other counterparts.

Applicants should have an advance degree in Development Economics, International Trade, or Business Administration and have experience in implementing international trade policy at the government level. Applicants with experience to deliver policy outcomes successfully to deadlines with working experience in a Ministry of Foreign Affairs or experience working in Government trade negotiation teams would be desirable.

Candidates should demonstrate substantial relevant work experience at a senior level dealing with economic and multilateral trade policy issues in the region or in an international environment; Sound knowledge and understanding of trade, economic issues and problems facing Forum member countries and in relation to international,

regional economic integration. Applicants should have an ability to develop strong relationships with counterpart governments and to respond to their needs, and should have strong analytical skills and ability to lead and motivate a team and be a clear communicator. Applicants should be willing to travel economy class.

The appointment will carry a competitive remuneration and benefits package including medical and life insurance. The salary will be in the range of SDR36,894 to SDR55,342 per annum. At the 1 August 2012 exchange rate this salary range was equivalent to FJD102,797 to FJD154,199. For non-Fijian nationals, this salary may be tax-free. Interested applicants are encouraged to obtain an information package containing the job description and remuneration details, which are available at www.forumsec.org. To be eligible for this position, the applicant must be a national of a Forum member country*.

Applications should be addressed to the Secretary General, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Private Mail Bag, Suva and can be sent electronically to jobs@forumsec.org.fj. Applications should be received by close of business on **Friday 28 September, 2012**.

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages both men and women to apply.

* Member States of the Pacific Islands Forum: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

...Stone Head

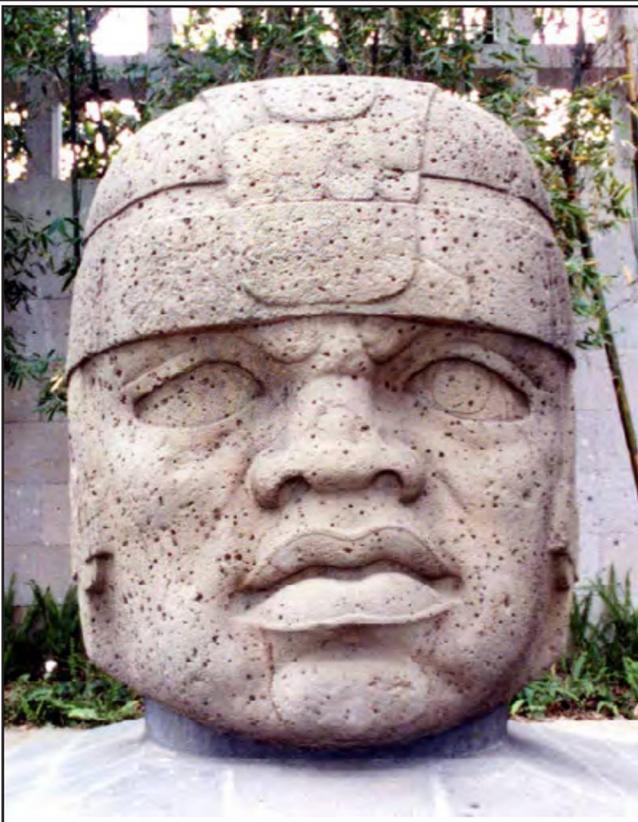
Continued from front page

Photos of the "stone head" would be particularly helpful in order to help specialists to identify the origins of the carving.

In 1967 Ron Otrin, who now works in his retirement in the Mt. Shasta, California library, was a young officer in the U.S. Coast Guard when the vessel to which he was assigned paid a port call to Pohnpei for a few hours to take on supplies. He was the only crew member to leave the ship. While walking he snapped photos but he took the last photo not long before he found the large stone carving of the human head in "the jungle".

45 years after his hours long visit to Pohnpei, Otrin returned to Pohnpei in effort to "rediscover" his "discovery." He said that he remembers that the nose on the carving was wide and flat and the lips were fat. To the best of his memory, the stone head was six feet tall by four feet wide.

Otrin spent a week in Pohnpei asking questions and trying to find the stone carving and left just over two weeks ago. It wasn't until a few hours before his flight was scheduled to leave that Sean Mendiola, who works at the hotel where Otrin stayed, told him that his grandfather, Wayne Mendiola had seen men removing



An example of an Olmec head in San Lorenzo

a large "stone head" from the island in the vicinity of the German church some time in the 1960's.

We could not contact Mr. Mendiola for confirmation of Sean's report.

Sometime between Otrin's serendipitous visit to Pohnpei in the 60's and his return visit 45 years later, he came upon a book with a cover photo of an Olmec head. The photo jogged his memory regarding what he had seen and he contacted the author,

Professor Richard Diehl. Professor Diehl was interested in the sighting and was apparently convinced enough by Otrin's account that Diehl put Otrin in touch with Les Hazell.

Hazell currently occupies a position as an Honorary Research Fellow of the Institute of Latin American Studies at La Trobe University in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. His research interests are "primarily the Olmec and the transportation of Olmec Heads from their source to San Lorenzo (Vera Cruz, Mexico), a process that has been debated for many years," he wrote. "I disputed the use of water methods to do this. This research and analysis coincided with the transport of stone money by the Yapese, the subject of a paper by myself and Scott Fitzpatrick in 2006."

"The Olmec were a Mesoamerican society whose centers dominated areas within and beyond the Isthmus of Tehuantepec or central modern Mexico," he wrote in an email. "They are generally accepted to be the mother culture or the earliest civilization and were influential within the region in trade, art and political organization within a large area of Mexico, between 1800- 400BC. This influence also extended to the other areas with elements of their writing seen in Mayan glyphs for example. Trade routes were established from artifacts and may have included areas near Mexico City."

Hazell said that he questioned Otrin very carefully and found that Otrin's background and story led Hazell to believe that Otrin was in no way a crank or a crackpot. "His answers were unambiguous, (and) his background made him an important source and partner to this investigation."

We asked Hazell what significance an Olmec carving would be if one of the carvings was discovered to have been in Pohnpei.

"This would be a most significant find," he exclaimed. "The reason is because it calls into question migration patterns and the extent influence of the Olmec if the head characteristics can be demonstrated to mirror this culture."

The 1967 "find" could be vitally important.

If anyone knows anything at all about the purported "stone head" they are urged to contact any or all of the following contacts. Photographs will especially be appreciated:

FSM Archives and Preservations:

Augustine Kohler at

kusgoose@hotmail.com or at
(691) 320-2343

Pohnpei Historical Preservation:

Mordain David at

mordaindavid@yahoo.com or at
(691) 320-2652

Les Hazell at:

leshazell@activ8.net.au

Or Ron Otrin at:

rotrins@yahoo.com

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U.S. Ambassador presents credentials

*Embassy of the United States
of America Kolonia*



Ambassador Rosen and President Mori together

On August 17, Dorothea-Maria (Doria) Rosen presented her credentials to President Emanuel Mori at the FSM National Government compound in Palikir, Pohnpei. Following the ceremony, Ambassador Rosen officially became the ninth U.S. Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia.

A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, she most recently served as the Diplomat-in-Residence for the Midwest region, based out of the University of Illinois at Chicago. A Diplomat-in-Residence is responsible for providing guidance and advice to students, professionals and the community about Department of State careers.

Prior to this position, she was the Deputy Principal Officer in Frankfurt, Germany. Ambassador Rosen also served as the Consul General in Bern, Switzerland, and as Deputy Chief of Mission in Reykjavik, Iceland.

Her other previous positions include: Visa Branch Chief in Frankfurt, Germany; Nonimmigrant Visa Chief in Manila, Philippines; Political Military Officer in Berlin, Germany; Consular Officer in Accra, Ghana; Deputy Chief Immigrant Visa Section in Seoul, South Korea; and Vice Consul in Stuttgart, Germany and

Bucharest, Romania. In Washington, Ambassador Rosen has served as Director of the Office of Public and Diplomatic Liaison in the Bureau of Consular Affairs and as an analyst in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research.

Prior to entering the Foreign Service, Ambassador Rosen served as an Army Reservist from 1979 to 1981. From 1976 to 1979, she served on active duty in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps in Heidelberg, Germany.

She holds an A.B. from Vassar College and a J.D. from Hofstra University Law School. She has studied French, Romanian and German. Ambassador Rosen has three grown children: Michael, Thomas, and Katharine.

During the short ceremony, Ambassador Rosen and President Mori both commented on the special relationship between the two nations and their hopes of deepening those bonds. Following the formal ceremony, they had the opportunity to engage in a lengthy chat. President Mori emphasized that the FSM and U.S. relationship was strong and that it was much more than just the Compact. Following the official ceremony, President Mori hosted a small reception for Ambassador Rosen to introduce her to members of his Cabinet.

Pohnpei Municipal Officials learn some of the essentials of humanitarian assistance

The International Organization for Migration

Kolonia, Pohnpei - On August 28, 2012, the International Organization for Migration, in coordination with the Office of Environment and Emergency Management (OEEM) conducted the first part of the Essentials in Humanitarian Assistance training. During this session IOM and OEEM introduced the concept of humanitarian assistance, and specifically, relief distribution planning and execution. The training was made possible through the generous support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The aim of the training was to introduce concepts of humanitarian assistance, disaster risk reduction and to educate participants on the fundamentals of humanitarian logistics, in preparation for a natural disaster response. Approximately 40 individuals attended the training, and participants included community leaders, officials of the Pohnpei municipal governments and Lieutenant Patrick Carl of Pohnpei Department of Public Safety (PDPS). The training team consisted of national government officials from OEEM and IOM staff.

Mr. James Lukan, Assistant Director of Emergency Management Division opened the training while Mr. Ashley Carl, IOM Chief of Mission, introduced IOM and its emergency response activities globally and in the north Pacific region. Moreover, he introduced the concepts of vulnerability and hazard exposure to the participants and the relationship these concepts have with disaster risk. Subsequently, Mr. Ryan McVey, IOM Program

Consultant outlined important considerations for humanitarian relief distributions. Specifically, he described the distribution planning and execution practices. Using small break-out groups, the participants completed resource identification sheets for each of their municipalities. These resource sheets will be helpful for facilitating disaster response actors originating from the local, national and international levels.

The afternoon allowed the group an opportunity to apply their new knowledge on disaster risk management and humanitarian relief logistics to a scenario, in which a typhoon strikes Sokehs Island. The participants had to formulate an evacuation plan, identify resource mobilization requirements to meet the probable needs of their communities. Once this exercise concluded Ms. Poll, Mitigation Officer - OEEM, explained the follow-up required by participants post-training. She also offered her personal accounts of disaster response in Yap and Chuuk. A brief Introduction to the Pohnpei Disaster Coordination Office was then presented by Lt. Patrick Carl, covering the organizational structure of the office and the tasks he is expected to perform in his capacity as acting Disaster Coordination Officer.

With the successful completion of the first part of the Essentials in Humanitarian Assistance training, the community leaders and municipal representatives are on their way to being more prepared to assist their own communities and to effectively coordinate their response efforts with the State and National Government, as well as the IOM, as the principal implementation partner for USAID in the FSM.

FSM seeks PHL expertise to develop rice industry

GMA News

MANILA, Philippines — The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) is seeking technological assistance from the Philippine government to learn how to develop its own rice industry.

"Micronesia, particularly in Pohnpei, has so many natural resources. We need to maximize these resources for consumption, and to start reducing importation such as rice from other countries," said FSM Senator Shelten Neth in a statement released by the Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice).

In a recent tour of the Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, including PhilRice headquarters, Neth said his country wants to explore a possible "country to country" collaboration on rice production.

A net importer of food products, FSM imports rice and other food from Australia, the United States, and Japan, among other countries.

Neth also visited a premier rice milling plant in San Jose City.

PhilRice is an attached agency of the Agriculture Department, dedicated to developing high-yielding and cost-reducing technologies for palay farmers.

The Federated States of Micronesia is located in the north Pacific Ocean as part of the region known as Micronesia, and consists of more than 600 islands comprising the states of Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap, and Kosrae.

Tungro-resistant rice

PhilRice has also reported that the new commercialized hybrid rice varieties it developed in coordination with the University of the Philippines-Los Baños withstood infestations of the rice-attacking tungro virus in several tests.

Home-grown Mestiso 19 and Mestiso 20 produced high numbers of tillers and exhibited resistance to tungro in a series of adaptability trials conducted in Cagayan, Leyte, Aurora, and Palawan during this year's dry season.

Mestiso 19 could yield as high as 10,700 metric tons (MT) rice and matures in 110 days. Aside from its tungro resistance, it shows intermediate reaction to blast and brown planthopper. However, it is susceptible to bacterial leaf blight.

Mestiso 20 registered maximum yield of 11,700 MT rice and matures in 111 days. It is moderately resistant to green leafhopper and brown planthopper and has intermediate reaction to blast. In some areas, it is susceptible to tungro and bacterial leaf blight.

Terasawa-san bids a fond sayonara to the FSM



Mr. Genichi Terasawa

Pohnpei, FSM—On the evening of August 21 dignitaries gathered at Ambassador's Suzuki's residence to say goodbye to Mr. Genichi Terasawa who has served as the Deputy Chief of Mission at the Japanese Embassy for nearly three years and to welcome Mr. Masaki Tani who will be taking up the position.

The text of Terasawa-san's speech follows:

Today, upon closing my tenure of 2 years and 8 months as Deputy Chief of Mission, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for three things.

First of all, I appreciate Micronesians' warm friendship towards Japan. Last year, I saw that the government and people of this country provided many encouragements and charity assistances for the victims at the disaster areas hit by the great earthquake. I noticed the existence of the strong human bond that the Micronesians and Japanese have. Your warm support accelerated the recovery from the disaster. Today I asked my colleagues to exhibit again the photos to show our speedy recovery sustained by various assistance provided by this country, our fellow countries and international organizations. Later please take the time to look at some of these photos.

Second, I'm thankful to work in this beautiful nature. Throughout my career, I spent a lot of time in the urbanized areas like Tokyo, Seoul, capitol of South Korea and Chicago in the United States. It was the first time for me to work in a country that still has plenty of untouched nature. I personally enjoyed jogging every evening along the causeway

between the Pohnpei Airport and my office. I felt comforted by the beautiful landscapes at the causeway. I also found that each state of this country has precious and beautiful nature.

Last June, many Japanese visited Pohnpei State on the first inaugural flight from Japan and all of them were impressed by the beautiful nature and hoped that both the people of this country and foreign visitors to take careful approach to maintain a good balance between nature and development, including tourism. The Embassy and JICA local office have continuously carried on various environmental conservation projects in this country.

Additionally, I voluntarily picked up trash along the causeway every Saturday and I saw many foreigners who also voluntarily joined the clean-up activities on the streets of Kolonia Town. On this opportunity, I would like to suggest the local people, as masters of this country, to more vigorously join these voluntary clean-up activities in their own communities.

And third, I am thankful for my assignment to work in this country. I was originally assigned as an expert on Korean affairs at my Tokyo headquarters. This assignment, working in the Pacific island country, was the first time for my diplomatic career. It opened up a new world in my life. Everything was fresh for me.

For example, a mission which excited me the most was the work of the Official Development Assistance or ODA for this country. In the case of South Korea, they have already graduated from the recipient status of ODA and accomplished their development. Therefore, my work in South Korea was mainly some kind of diplomatic coordination.

But in this country, my main daily work was the ODA. I found new happiness and fresh meaning in my career life through joining ODA works for this country. An ODA project is a work to assist nation building. I could share the excitement of joining the process of the nation building of this

country through the ODA.

Especially rather than large scale of construction projects like the improvement of the Pohnpei Airport, I found personal happiness and meaning in small scale grants of the ODA, like JICA volunteers' technical assistance in rural areas and our Embassy's Grass - Roots Grant Assistance for small local communities. Of course, large scale projects of ODA are quite important for the improvement of infrastructure in this country. But in the large scale ODA projects, I only communicated with officials from the National Government and staffs of the construction companies. However, in the small ODA projects, I was able to enjoy direct communications with people from local community. Many of them are people of low income, yet they welcomed me very friendly. Women in rural areas diligently work in sweat-inducing labor. Children gave me a lot of innocent smiles.

I'm thankful for this assignment and those people from small communities through working with small projects of ODA.

And now I think of what should be my next mission in order for the people of this country in my diplomatic career. Toward the end of my tenure, I submitted my request to Tokyo headquarters so as to continuously work for this region. I'm scheduled to receive my new assignment after I return back to the headquarters. If my hope is granted, I will be able to continuously work for people of the Pacific islands countries including FSM.

I would like to wrap up my farewell remarks with the most important phrase of the Okinawa Declaration issued by the last sixth Pacific Islands Leaders Summit Meeting (PALM 6) held in Okinawa, Japan last May.

"We are Islanders - For growing "Kizuna" (Strong Bonds) in the Pacific"



Mr. Masaki Tani

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PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SECRETARIAT
Excelling Together for the People of the Pacific



43rd Pacific Islands Forum opens in the Cook Islands



08/28/12

Rarotonga, Cook Islands – The 43rd Pacific Islands Forum has officially opened in the Cook Islands capital Rarotonga with Forum Leaders being carried to the entrance of National Auditorium, where the ceremony was held, on a Pa'ata (a traditional platform) accompanied by their “adopted schools”.

There were traditional challenges along the way to the Auditorium with the beating of drums and chants. There were more tamure dancing with the new Chair of the Forum and Cook Islands Prime Minister, Hon. Henry Puna singing a song to welcome his Pacific colleagues to his country. Forum Leaders and their delegations together with the local community then joined together in a large feast.

Included are parts of the address by the Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Tuiloma Neroni Slade at the opening ceremony.

“THE FORUM AT 40 – PRESSING FORWARD

As we press forward beyond the 40 years of the Pacific Islands Forum, we do so in the face of many challenges, in the region and beyond. Economic growth among Forum countries continues to be lower than potential growth performance. Climate change remains the single greatest threat, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is uneven. There is a host of others.

And so, Honourable Leaders, this meeting is about finding answers, and the region looks to you for guidance and stewardship.

FORUM THEME

A most worthy theme has been set for the year: “Large Ocean Island States – the Pacific Challenge”. Islands inhabit the ocean and the ocean exerts strong influence on islands. Indeed, the ocean is the strongest forcing on the global climate system. The ocean-island inter-play is the essence of an ancient and intimate relationship, one that lies

deep in the character and culture of every Pacific community. But these are times of challenging and far-reaching change. The demands of humanity are taking their toll, putting stress, in particular, on the oceans and its resources. Our countries are at the

forefront in the struggle against climate change, and recurring natural disasters. The Pacific Challenge is timely and right for the Forum in united kinship of our large ocean island states to determine a future based on peace and security, and prosperity for all.

PACIFIC OCEANSCAPE

The Pacific Oceanscape is a natural focus in this endeavour. Endorsed by Forum Leaders in 2010, the sweeping vision of the Pacific Oceanscape is grounded in pragmatism: a pledge to ourselves to safeguard our home and our security, and to advance informed and integrated ocean management and adaptation to environmental and climate change.

RIO+20

Two months ago at Rio de Janeiro, World Leaders and high level representatives, including from almost every Forum member country, set out their Common Vision for the “Future We Want”. There was acknowledgement and reaffirmation of the need to achieve economic stability and sustained economic growth, promotion of social equity and protection of the environment, while enhancing gender equality and women’s empowerment and equal opportunity for all, especially for young people.

The outcomes of Rio+20 also reaffirmed the “special case” for small island developing States for sustainable development; acknowledged climate change as one of the greatest global challenge of our time; and gave very significant emphasis to the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and their resources. We must seize and build on these outcomes.

THE PACIFIC PLAN

The response to the Pacific Challenge theme, and to the Rio outcomes would need to be centred on the Pacific Plan, the master strategy for regional cooperation and integration. The Pacific Plan provides a high-level framework to articulate the priorities for the region

and is now well recognised by development partners and the wider international community.

The Pacific Plan is due for review in 2013, on terms for the consideration and approval by Leaders.

THE FORUM COMPACT AND PEER REVIEWS

The Forum Compact launched by Leaders at your meeting in Cairns is now recognised as an effective mechanism in the implementation of the Pacific Plan. The Peer Review process has proven of particular value and utility in efforts for strengthening the systems and functioning of national development plans. The sharing of insights and experience amongst Forum member countries goes to the very heart of regional cooperation and integration.

WAIHEKE DECLARATION

Adopted by Forum Leaders at their meeting in 2011, the Waiheke Declaration on Sustainable Economic Development recommitted Leaders to pursue a goal of sustained economic growth and development. I would note that the necessary policy and implementation actions associated with the Declaration are underway closely monitored and led by the Forum Economic Ministers.

TRADE

Regional and international trade issues are high on the region’s agenda, as they should. I am particularly pleased to report the signing of the PICTA trade in services Protocol earlier today. This is a milestone step and a crucial one for Forum countries and for the regional economy as a whole.

TRANSNATIONAL CRIME AND COUNTER TERRORISM

Transnational crime continues to be a human and economic security threat, and remains a matter of concern and priority for law enforcement agencies of the region. Recent statistics indicate that the region is being actively targeted as a transit route for the trafficking of arms, people and illicit drugs. I note and commend the efficient and coordinated efforts by national and regional law enforcement agencies to combat these criminal activities and threat.

ACTIVITIES UNDER THE BIKETAWA DECLARATION

Under the Biketawa Declaration, I am pleased to report that RAMSI continues

PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM *40th Anniversary 1971-2011*

to be a mission of the greatest assistance and support to the Solomon Islands, and I am sure Honourable Leaders would wish to congratulate the Solomon Islands Government and RAMSI on significant progress made in the development of relations, and particularly in the implementation of the SIG-RAMSI Partnership Framework.

I report also that the Forum Ministerial Contact (MCG) Group on Fiji was able to conduct a successful visit to Fiji on 1 May 2012. This was the Group’s first visit since the implementation of targeted measures in May 2009. This matter is also for Leaders’ consideration at this meeting.

WOMEN

Honourable Leaders, your meeting this year is an occasion to acknowledge the strength, insight, determination and wisdom of Pacific women – past and present. We need to continue, with greater clarity, to support and encourage concerted efforts underway to effectively address the entrenched disadvantages that many women face in participation in education, economic opportunities and leadership, and social advancement. There is some pleasing response to calls for increased women’s political participation and decision-making, and to advancing women’s economic status. But, much more needs to be done to instill ‘zero tolerance’ for violence against women and girls.

I should like to acknowledge the presence of UN Under-Secretary General Madame Bachelet, Head of UN Women and here to represent the UN Secretary General. I am sure she would be delighted to offer to Leaders her insights and advice.

PARTNERSHIPS

The region engages actively and constructively with all development partners in the implementation of the work of the Forum. These partnerships are vital for the region and are deeply valued, and I wish to acknowledge the presence here today of all our development partners and their representatives.

In particular, I acknowledge the cooperation and contribution of many of the partner technical agencies and fellow executives of the Pacific regional organisations who are here today.”

Pohnpei Rotary Club 2012-2013 scholarship awards

Rotary Club of Pohnpei

The Pohnpei Rotary Club is pleased to announce that the winners of its 2012-2013 scholarship awards. The Rotary Club has been active for 15 years in awarding scholarships to local students who are going to university for bachelor's degrees and post graduate work. The money used for these scholarships is all from the Club's local fundraising activities, and we want to thank the community for its gracious support.

This year was one of the hardest yet in trying to select the winners. There were many great applications received, and it was very difficult to select the winners. The application process is very rigorous

and requires a lot of work. We wish to commend all of those who applied. Obviously we will have to fund raise even more diligently so we can award more scholarships.

We are pleased to announce this year's winners and the schools they will be attending in the fall.

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. | Delta Bernard | UH Hilo |
| 2. | Laura Fujimoto | COM-FSM |
| 3. | Rockyner Hadley | COM-FSM |
| 4. | Gayle Marie Hallers | COM-FSM |
| 5. | Dayne Iehsi | UI-Champaigne |
| 6. | Drinnette James | Fresno Pacific |
| 7. | Cheryll Ligohr | COM-FSM |
| 8. | Naiomi Lohn | Eastern Oregon |
| 9. | William Piki | UOG |
| 10. | Leola Primo | COM-FSM |
| 11. | Andrea Ratloilug | COM-FSM |
| 12. | Andriet Ratloilug | COM-FSM |
| 13. | Georgia Tinag | COM-FSM |
| 14. | Alexander Tretnoff | Chandler-Gilbert |
| 15. | Rosalinda Yatilman | UH Manoa |
| 16. | Desiree Yamase | Chaminade |
| 17. | Nicole Yamase | Chaminade |
| 18. | Universe Yamase | UH-Manoa |

The Rotary Club congratulates all of the winners and wishes them success in their studies. The scholarships awarded this year exceeded \$11,000.00.

We are really proud of all the applicants and winners, and the FSM will be in good hands when these students graduate. Please support the Rotary Club in our fundraisers, including our big annual Quiz Nite scheduled for November 3, 2012 at PCR Restaurant.



Matson's North Pacific freight delayed due to mechanical problem

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

August 29, 2012

Pohnpei, FSM—The Matson vessel the "MV Islander" that had been due into Majuro on Thursday of last week instead limped into the Pohnpei harbor on Saturday after experiencing mechanical difficulties while at sea.

A representative of Matson made the following statement:

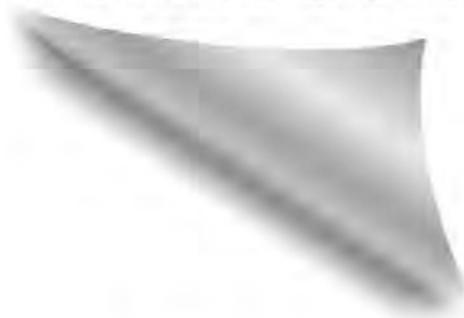
"On August 19, the MV Islander experienced a mechanical problem that required the vessel to decrease power on the main engine. Due to adverse weather conditions and vessel safety concerns, it was decided to divert the ship to Pohnpei for emergency repairs. Repair efforts in Pohnpei were subsequently hampered by the lack of spare parts. It was then determined that the voyage could not be completed as scheduled. Cargo was transferred to another vessel to expedite delivery to customers. Repairs are expected to be completed later this week, after which the ship will return directly to Guam to start its next voyage. We apologize for any inconvenience caused by this mechanical problem."

Freight from the beleaguered vessel (voyage 159) has been loaded onto Kyowa's Cattleya and is now scheduled to arrive in Kwajalein on September 1, Ebeye on September 2, Majuro on September 3, Kosrae on September 6, and Chuuk on September 9.

Voyage 160 is scheduled to begin just one day late after the "MV Islander" returns to Guam.

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

North Pacific ACP Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Project [North-REP]

Ref: SPC/EOI: 12/01,
Nanpil Hydro Rehabilitation

Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) is undertaking renewable energy development project in Pohnpei state including the refurbishment of 725kW hydro generator installed in the Nanpil Hydro Power Station located at approximately 3 miles south of Pohnpei's capital, Kolonia. It has secured funds under the North-REP for the Nanpil Hydro Power Station refurbishment as part of the Northern Pacific countries RE development projects.

SPC would like to invite interested contractor(s) to submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) to carry out specific tasks as outlined in the brief scope of works for the rehabilitation and reinstatement of the Nanpil hydro in Pohnpei, FSM. Following the evaluation of EOIs submitted, SPC intends to undertake a competitive tender exercise through a Request for Proposal (RFP). The solicitation documents will be sent only to the shortlisted contractor(s) for the submission of proposal to carry out works as detailed in the Scope of Works.

The Expression of Interest shall be submitted in the following formats:

By sealed envelopes duly marked as "EOI 12/01 North Pacific ACP Renewable Energy Efficiency Project" to be mailed or hand delivered to:

**North REP, SPC North Pacific Regional Office
P O Box Q, Kolonia, Pohnpei
Federated States of Micronesia 96941**

Or

By email to procurement@spc.int clearly stated "EOI 12/01 North Pacific ACP Renewable Energy Efficiency Project" in the subject line of the email.

The Brief Scope of Works and other related documents can be obtained from the Secretariat's offices or downloaded from the SPC website (<http://www.spc.int/>) under procurement notices.

For any additional information or clarification, send e-mail request to procurement@spc.int. The closing date for submission of interest has been extended to **4.00PM, Wednesday 12th September, 2012.**

Chuuk State Attorney General's office gets Criminal Justice Training

Chuuk Attorney General's Office

Weno, Chuuk—From August 14-17, the Chuuk State Attorney General's office legal training program, through an FSM capacity building grant funded by the U.S. Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs, hosted a criminal investigation workshop at the Kurassa Meeting Hall on Weno, Chuuk.

Four trainers from Williamson County, Texas conducted the training, including assistant district attorney Robert McCabe, criminal investigators Chris Herndon and John Rowe, and crime scene expert Jennifer Smith. For two of the trainers, Robert McCabe and Chris Herndon, the training was a follow up to a training they conducted in Chuuk in November, 2011 on related issues.

The goal of the workshop was to develop practical skills for criminal investigations and prosecutions including hands-on crime scene analysis and evidence collection techniques, fingerprint collection and analysis, police interrogation, and arrest and search warrant procedures.

Forty-five participants attended the training, including members of the FSM Department of Justice, Pohnpei and Chuuk Attorney General's offices, and police from the Pohnpei and Chuuk departments of public safety, as well as members of the FSM Public Defender's office, Micronesian Legal Services, Chuuk state justices, and legal interns.

On behalf of Governor Elimo, Chief of Staff Wilfred Robert gave opening remarks, thanking the trainers and the legal training program for its commitment to improving the quality of law enforcement in Chuuk and the FSM.

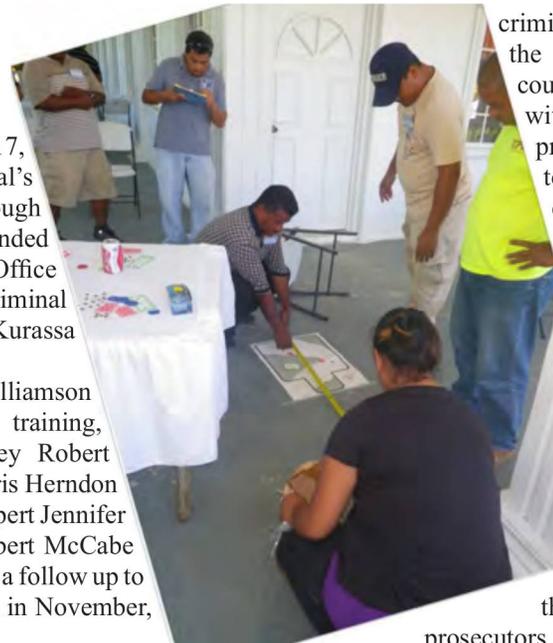
The workshop covered a wide-range of issues in criminal investigations and prosecutions, from initial police response to criminal complaints through all stages of investigation and prosecution.

On the first day of the workshop, Chris Herndon, a criminal investigation specialist, provided an overview of crime scene investigation and evidence collection techniques and best practices.

In the morning of the second day, Mr. Herndon provided an orientation on use of criminal investigation tools and equipment, including use of digital cameras; rulers; tape measures; blockades; and evidence collection and containment, storage, and preservation. Then trainees formed crime scene investigation teams who under the supervision of the trainers conducted mock crime scene investigations of homicide crime scenes outside the training site using tools and equipment provided by the training.

On the afternoon of the second day, Jennifer Smith, a crime scene specialist, provided hands-on training in crime scene analysis and fingerprint collection. Officer and prosecutor trainees formed crime scene analysis teams who reported to the workshop the results of their analysis of actual crime scenes, and received critiques from the trainers. Then Ms. Rowe presented an overview of the use of fingerprints as evidence. The trainees finished the day by practicing lifting and preserving fingerprints from tin cans and other physical objects where fingerprint evidence may be found.

On the third day, detective John Rowe presented a multi-media presentation on police questioning of witnesses, interrogation of suspects, and obtaining confessions to crimes. Mr. Rowe emphasized the need to adopt best practices of recording and taping police interrogations, and sought to debunk the popular misconception that confessions may be reliably obtained through the "good cop/bad cop" approach, or by otherwise seeking to intimidate suspects. The approach recommended by Mr. Rowe was intended to ensure that confessions sought for admission into evidence during



criminal prosecutions were not the product of coercion and could be admitted by judges with sufficient guarantees that procedures were followed to ensure that suspects' constitutional rights against self-incrimination were not violated.

On the fourth day, prosecutor Robert McCabe provided an overview of search and arrest warrants with specific reference to and recommended application of provisions of Chuuk and FSM law. He also gave special attention to

the ways in which officers and prosecutors coordinate their handling of criminal cases from review of the evidence to conviction and sentencing.

In the materials each attendee received for the workshop, the trainers provided forms for crime scene inventorying and sketching, search and arrest warrants, and other forms that were designed to be copied and put to immediate use by public safety officers and prosecutors.

After four full days of training, the workshop closed on Friday afternoon. Then, a reception was held at the training site. Chuuk State Department of Public Safety Director Kerson Rizal gave closing remarks at the reception thanking the trainers and the Attorney General legal training program for its commitment to the improvement of law enforcement in Chuuk. Gifts were exchanged. The trainers received Truk Lagoon t-shirts and memorabilia while the trainers gave each of the trainees patches displaying the flags of Texas and Chuuk unified and emblazoned with the Texas district attorney's office shield and "Joint Training Chuuk."

All participants received certificates for their successful completion of the training. For those prosecutors and other lawyers who are admitted to practice in jurisdictions with formal continuing legal education requirements, the workshop qualified those lawyers to meet those requirements. The FSM currently does not have formal continuing legal education requirements, but the Model Rules of Professional Conduct, as adopted by court order in the FSM and the four state jurisdictions, impose an ethical obligation for lawyers and trial counselors to maintain professional competence through continuing legal education.

Assistant Attorney General for the FSM Department of Justice Erick Divinagracia stated that it was the best legal training he had attended in over ten years of practice and that the multi-media presentations and hands-on approach of the instructors made the workshop "fun and interesting." Feedback from public safety officers was also overwhelmingly positive, many of whom had not ever received the type of hands-on training in crime scene investigations that was provided. Some Chuuk officers asked if the Chuuk Attorney General's office training program would be willing to offer the same training in a Chuukese language version.

From the perspective of the trainers, who had never traveled so far from home to conduct a training before they came to Chuuk, the week may have begun with some degree of apprehension but ended in exhilaration. Detective John Rowe concluded that the week had been the experience of a lifetime. The other trainers discussed the possibility of additional trainings.

After the training, Chuuk State Attorney General Joses R. Gallen with the approval of Grant Manager Gerald Shea, dedicated the equipment used in the training to the Chuuk State Department of Public Safety for use in their criminal investigations.

The Chuuk Attorney General's office legal training program has been approved by the Chuuk Legislature to continue into the next fiscal year, so that such trainings may continue to be offered.

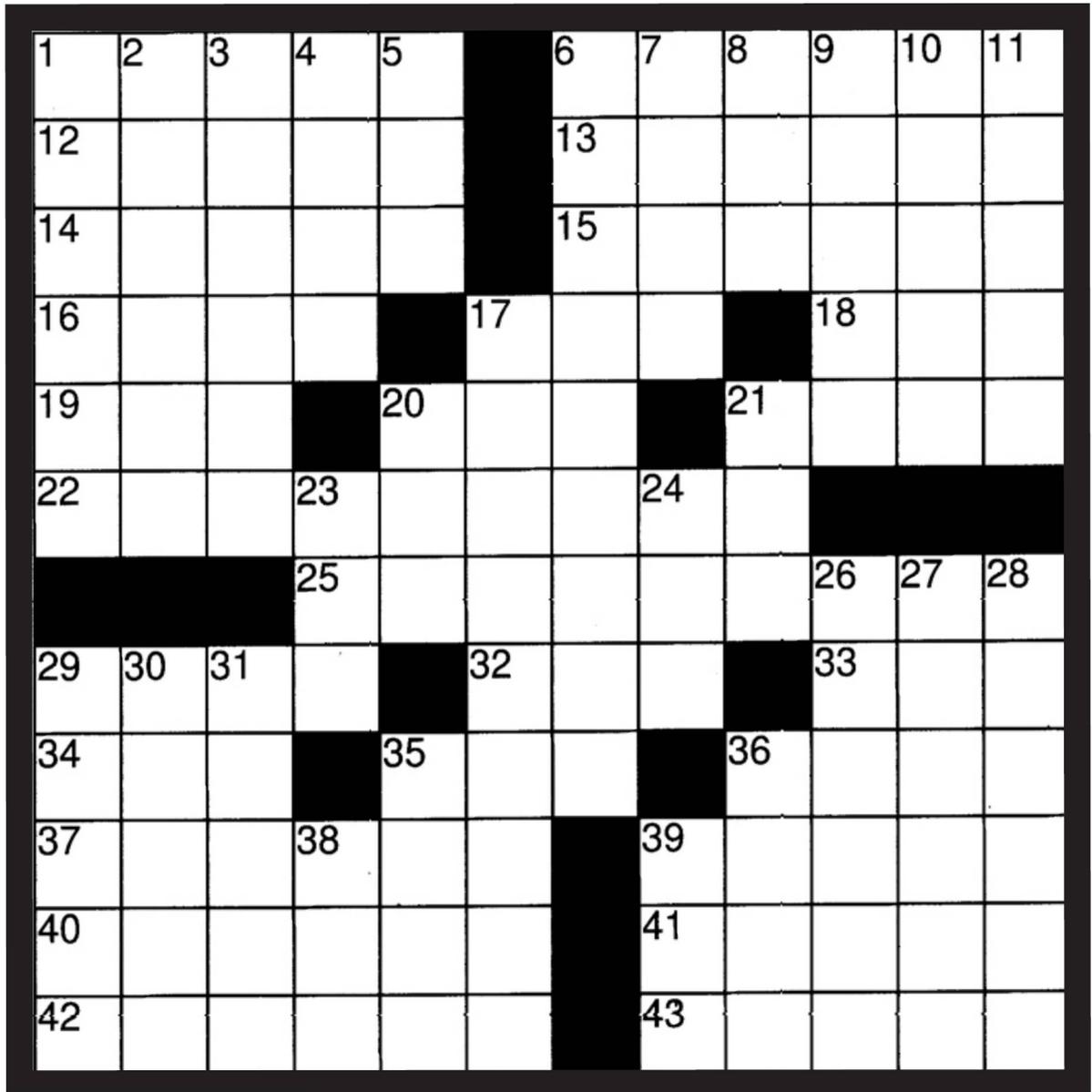
Crossword - Goin' Round

ACROSS

1. Like some vines
6. The ___ Game
12. Lunar lander
13. Got away from
14. Perk
15. Go around
16. Bush appointee of 2002
17. Busy one
18. Generation ___
19. Toothpaste form
20. Reading spot
21. Bombard
22. Local law
25. Change
29. Seek guidance
32. Dapper fellow
33. Cry about
34. Little boy
35. I will, shortly
36. Here or there
37. Broken apart
39. Played freeze tag
40. Maneuvers
41. More than good
42. Multitudes
43. Artificial

DOWN

1. Unhands
2. Hard worker
3. Ancient
4. Mistake
5. Thus far
6. Flower type
7. Red ender
8. Overhang
9. Maxim
10. Cold spot to not lick
11. Capable
17. Like the good Spock
20. Trial test?
21. caress
23. Creepy me
24. Knows how
26. Van Gogh work
27. Beat at the buffet
28. Record player
29. Opulent
30. Totaled
31. Type of snake
35. About
36. Tab, for one
38. Big reference, for short
39. Gladys Knight associate



K Press Puzzle Pleasure - K Press Puzzle Pleasure



HOT...!

Here's a puzzle to cool your heels with while you sit at the picnic table and munch on a HOT DOG or HAMBURGER. Each of the 34 words hidden in the puzzle below is the name of a food or beverage that is consumed hot.

O B A C O N M Y V P U O S E
 T P S S G N I W R B I F P L
 A P P L E P I E R F R Z C F
 T N S P K T G O D E R S Z F
 O T S A O R T N N V P I S A
 P N N A U H P C E R F P T W
 I I S B B S H N K K I G E S
 L T M A U F A E K A C N A P
 I A Y W R R U G R T O I G T
 H M D Y R Y O P E Z F F H A
 C A D Z I D V L L L F F D C
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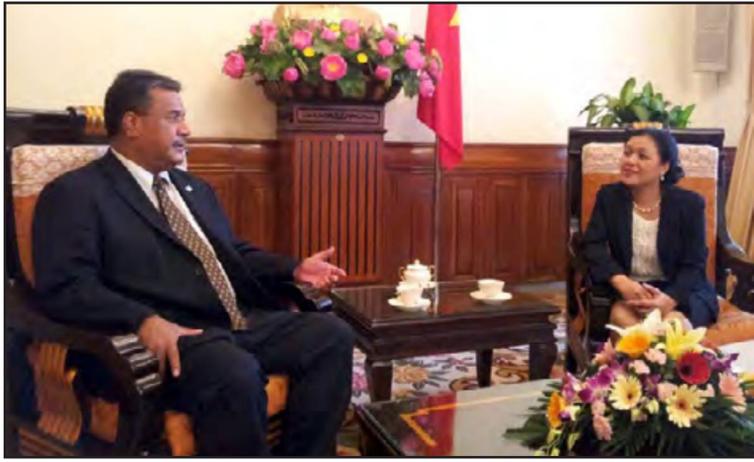
- | | |
|------------|----------|
| APPLE PIE | PANCAKE |
| BACON | PEPPER |
| BROTH | PIZZA |
| BURRITO | POTATO |
| CALZONE | ROAST |
| CHICKEN | SAUSAGE |
| CHILI | SOUP |
| COCOA | STEW |
| COFFEE | STIR FRY |
| FRENCH FRY | STUFFING |
| GRAVY | TACO |
| HAMBURGER | TAMMALE |
| HOT DOG | TEA |
| LASAGNA | TOAST |
| OATMEAL | TODDY |
| OMELET | WAFFLE |
| ONION RING | WINGS |

Ambassador Susaia presents credentials in Vietnam

FSM Embassy in Beijing

August 17, 2012 (FSM Embassy, Beijing) Ambassador Akillino H. Susaia presented his Letter of Credence to His Excellency Truong Tan Sang, President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam during a ceremony held at the Presidential Palace in Hanoi, Vietnam at 9:30 a.m. on 15 August 2012. The Letter of Credence was signed by His Excellency President Manny Mori and Secretary of Foreign Affairs Lorin S. Robert designating Ambassador Susaia as the FSM Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Viet Nam. In receiving the letter, President Sang accepted Ambassador Susaia as the first ambassador from the FSM accredited to Viet Nam, making it an historical occasion for FSM – Viet Nam relations.

Following the ceremony, President Sang invited Ambassador Susaia to his conference room for their first bilateral talks. The President welcomed Ambassador Susaia and expressed his appreciation for his appointment as FSM ambassador to Viet Nam. He stressed that Vietnam has closely followed situations



Ambassador Susaia meets with Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Madame Nga

in the South Pacific and wanted to develop its friendship and diplomatic ties with the FSM and the other island nations in the region. Ambassador Susaia thanked the President for the acceptance of the Letter of Credence and stated that his appointment is a reflection of the FSM's interest to renew its commitment to the relationship as expressed when FSM and Viet Nam established diplomatic relations on 22 September 1995. Ambassador Susaia assured the President that he will work closely with relevant officials in Viet Nam to make the relationship a fruitful one for both countries.

Ambassador Susaia was in Viet Nam from 13 to 17 August 2012. During the subsequent days following the Presentation of Credentials Ceremony, Ambassador Susaia had meetings with different government ministries to discuss cooperation on issues of mutual benefit. During his meeting with Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Bui Ban Bong, Ambassador Susaia discussed cooperation in the areas of agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries. With the Minister of Education and Training Pham Vu

Luan, Ambassador Susaia raised the idea of establishing relations between the educational institutions in both countries in order to foster cooperative studies and training in relevant fields. Specifically, Ambassador Susaia emphasized the need for student and

faculty exchanges between colleges and universities in Viet Nam and the FSM.

Ambassador Susaia's last meeting on 16 August 2012 was with Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Nguyen Phuong Nga. Ambassador Susaia briefed the Deputy Minister of the successful meetings throughout the week and reiterated the interest by both sides to turn the discussions into reality by having a delegation visit the FSM to identify specific activities of cooperation. Deputy Minister Nga expressed her support for the idea and hopes that the future visit can result in a Memorandum of Understanding and eventually a framework agreement noting specific cooperative activities to promote the friendly relations between the FSM and Viet Nam.

Ambassador Susaia's visit to Viet Nam is part of President Mori's priority of pursuing economic diplomacy intended to renew and expand FSM's relations in Asia. Accompanying Ambassador Susaia to Viet Nam was Deputy Chief of Mission Carl D. Apis.

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- Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday at Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic Vicariate office at 7:00 p.m. Public welcome.
- Pohnpei Lions Club meets monthly every 4th Tuesday at Kia's Restaurant at 6:30 p.m. Public Welcome.
- The Christian Ministerial Association of Pohnpei meets the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in Cantero Hall at the Roman Catholic vicariate office.
- Devotions every Sunday 9:30 a.m. at the Bahai Center in Dolonier. For details, call 320-4015.
- Soccer practice/games at PICS field Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 5:30 p.m. Everyone welcome.
- St John's Catholic Church in Kosrae conducts services every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. For further information, call 370-3240 or 370-3209.
- The Rotary Club of Pohnpei holds its weekly meetings Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. at PCR Nantehlik.
- FANGO holds its monthly Issue Based Dialogue (IBD) on the last Wednesday of each Month at the Sei Restaurant at 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. The public is welcome.
- The Rotary Club of Truk Lagoon holds its weekly meetings every Wednesday at 12:00 Noon at the High Tides Restaurant. You are welcome to attend and can contact us at: rotarycluboftruklagoon@yahoo.com
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Pacific Islands Forum: World leaders are to observe at PIF Leaders meeting, Rarotonga

FSM Information Services

PALIKIR, FSM — The Pacific Scoop, New Zealand, reported on August 23 that China, although not an official "observer" at the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting, would bring a delegation to the Cook Islands for the meeting.

The past week, there has been heightened media frenzy over whether Mrs. Hilary Clinton, U.S. Secretary of State, would be in the Cooks. Media Liaison Officer, Derek Fox, said the Secretary's participation was still "unconfirmed" as of the 23rd. However, Mr. Kurt Campbell, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, has told FSM President Manny Mori when he visited the FSM earlier this month that Secretary Clinton would be at the PIF Leaders Meeting.

Some non-Member, non-Observer countries or groups will be sending delegations to Rarotonga (Cook Islands' capital) including the United States, Japan, China, India, the EU, Italy, the United Kingdom, Canada, Korea, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, Singapore,

Taiwan, Cuba and Israel -- according to Mr. Fox.

Official Observers are: Guam, American Samoa, Wallis and Futuna, Tokelau, Timor-Leste, ACP Group, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, Asian Development Bank, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the World Bank and the United Nations.

Besides the FSM, there will be 14 other Forum Members represented: Australia, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

The French Polynesia and New Caledonia will be attending as Associate Members.

Rarotonga will be a "world stage" as many countries eyeball the Pacific while its leaders converge in the highest government annual forum in the oceanic region with the most lucrative fishing grounds and rejuvenated prospects in deep-sea mining for some of the most rare minerals.

IFCP attended JICA wide area training in Papua New Guinea

By *Chizuru Seki (JICA)*
Island Food Community of Pohnpei

Mrs. Emihner Johnson, Acting Director of Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP), and Ms. Chizuru Seki (Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer at IFCP) attended the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Wide Area Training held in Papua New Guinea on August 13th to 16th, 2012.

The main targets for this training were JICA volunteers who specialize in community development along with their counterparts. Nearly 30 people from six countries in the Pacific Region and Asia participated. The countries represented were, in alphabetical order, the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, the Republic of the Fiji Islands, the Republic of Indonesia, the Republic of the Philippines, and the Solomon Islands.

With their existing knowledge, ability and experience, JICA volunteers try to help solve or bring improvement to community problems during a two-year period. However, since community development covers a vast area and may involve a variety of ways to approach a problem, it requires more knowledge, ability and experiences than the volunteers may have. Therefore, connecting and exchanging information plays a crucial role in community development.

This JICA Wide Area Training opened the participants' eyes to different approaches and gave them opportunities to apply community development methods from other countries to their own particular problems.

The training began with the introduction of each country and its projects. IFCP introduced its work with health problems in the FSM—high rate of diabetes, cancer, heart disease and vitamin A deficiency. Mrs. Johnson then presented IFCP's solution, "Let's Go Local!"

These non-communicable diseases (diabetes, cancer, heart diseases etc) in the FSM are also worldwide epidemic health problems, since the consumption of high sugar content drinks and imported processed food is becoming more popular in many countries. Thus, IFCP believes that its slogan "Let's Go Local" — meaning planting, growing, maintaining, harvesting, cooking and eating our own indigenous food— applies to other participated countries as well.

Participants from other countries were amazed at the nutritional contents of indigenous Micronesian food crops. For example, giant swamp taro contains essential minerals (iron, calcium and zinc), vitamins (provitamin A carotenoids) and fiber, which are all important for maintaining good health.

IFCP red pens and IFCP local food, banana and pandanus posters detailing scientific analysis on nutrients of indigenous Micronesian food crops were given to participated countries.

Among the participating countries, some are attempting advanced solutions, while others are behind. Through the training, participating countries inspired each other and learned so much from each other.

After a problem solving workshop, Mrs. Johnson stated, "I thought I came up with the best solution. However, when I heard others, there were more and better solutions."

As the proverb says, "Two heads are better than one." Two or more people working together may solve a problem more easily rather than puzzling over a question alone.

Now that all participants have safely returned to their respective countries, it is a critical moment for all. The success of this training can be determined by how well they apply and utilize the knowledge and experiences gained in real situations.

IFCP would like to give a special thanks to the Japan International Cooperation Agency for this opportunity to connect and exchange information with other countries.

Acknowledgements are given to IFCP funding supporters: SPC Healthy Life-Style, UNESCO, Division of Public Health of Pohnpei Department of Health Services, Pohnpei State Government Subsidy, the US Embassy and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

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Mrs. Johnson, IFCP Acting Director, presented work of IFCP at JICA Wide Area Training held in Papua New Guinea

Mix lands monster Grand Trevally in MATSON tournament

KPress

On Saturday, August 18, Matson sponsored a Pohnpei Fishing Club fishing tournament.

Eighteen boats registered.

Saimon Mix took the top prize of \$800 with a PFC record Grand Trevally (GT) of 52.5 pounds. Kara Miller took the \$500 second prize with her 42.5 pound sailfish. An



Kara Miller proudly displays her fish

angler on the PFC press release recorded only as "Tabita" took the third place prize of \$300 for her 32.5 pound Grand Trevally. Kazuhiro Fujita landed a 22.5 pound GT for the fourth place prize of \$200.

The fish caught under the "biggest of each species" weren't always particularly large but each winner in that category received a \$100 prize.

For Grand Trevally, Kazuhiro Fujita was the winner at 19.5. "Santrigo" brought in a 22 pound Mahi Mahi. Steincia Olter registered a 16 pound barracuda. Goujun Qu and Ross Perkins each landed little Wahoos of 10.5 pounds each. Dr. Johnny Hedson brought in a 7 pound wahoo.

Maria Spegal's 13.5 pound Yellow Fin tuna won her the Lady Angler award worth \$100.

The next Pohnpei Fishing Club tournament will be the Blue Nile Tournament set for September 8.

The Rusty Anchor Kids Fishing Tournament is scheduled for September 29.



Saimon Mix and his record breaking Trevally

College and IOM commence partnership

The International Organization for Migration

PALIKIR, Pohnpei - On August 22, 2012, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) conducted an information session through the College of Micronesia - FSM's Forum Lecture series at the COM-FSM National Campus, Media and Instructional Technology Center.

The lecture was conducted by IOM Trainer and COM alumni, Ms. Yolanda Joab. Ms. Joab has been working with IOM for over one year, teaching elementary school students in Pohnpei about climate change and natural hazards. About working for IOM, she stated "Going from COM to IOM has been a real growing experience. There is never a dull moment and I am challenged everyday to learn and try new things. The biggest reward is knowing that the work that I am doing is benefitting my country and people."

The presentation commenced with an introduction on IOM's work globally, and then led to a summation

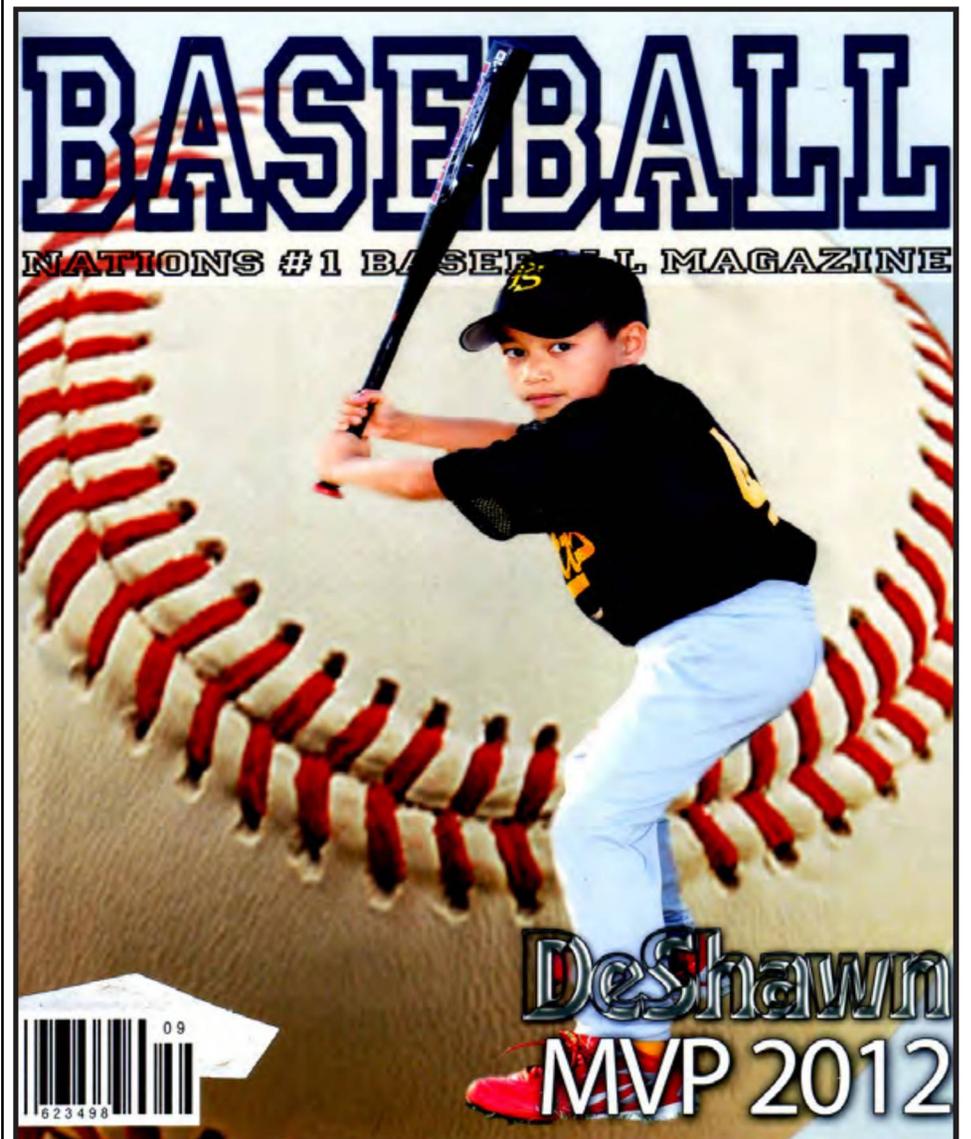
of the two programs IOM is managing in Micronesia: The Disaster Mitigation, Relief and Reconstruction Program, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Climate Adaptation, Disaster Risk Reduction and Education (CADRE) Program being implemented on behalf the Australian Agency for International Development. Following a discussion on the career opportunities that IOM has to offer, 43 enthusiastic students signed up as IOM volunteers. Mr. Joseph Daisy, COM President, pointed out that the volunteer trainings that IOM is offering will benefit the students by enhancing their skills and capabilities to become professionals in their chosen field of work. Moreover, he acknowledged that that the training would link well with some of the college programs that the students are currently taking and would be a way for them to not only give back to their community but heighten their education.

Aside from the presentation, a variety of IOM information sheets were available for the audience to accustom themselves with the activities of IOM. Over 60 individuals, including COM students and faculty members, were able to gain further insights on the critical importance of IOM's work both globally, in our region and within our communities.

The International Organization for Migration (691) 320 - 8735/95 or IOM Micronesia website: <http://micronesia.iom.int/>



DeShawn Lorrin selected as MVP



Dais Lorrin is proud to share with the FSM that his grandson, DeShawn who lives in Lawton, Oklahoma was selected as his team's Most Valuable Player this year